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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

LOWENHEIM, Hubert

International Application No. PCT/EP99/01153

Serial No. NOT YET ASSIGNED

International Filing Date: 23 February 1999 (23.02.99)

Filed: August , 2000

For: **METHOD FOR THE TREATMENT OF DISEASES OR DISORDERS OF THE INNER EAR**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before calculating the filing fee for the above identified application, please enter the following amendments:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel the Article 34 amended claims 1-27 and submit the following new set of claims without prejudice.

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28. Process for the treatment of diseases or disorders of the inner ear linked with damage or destruction of the sensory cells of the inner ear, characterized in that for the regeneration of the sensory cells of the inner ear the inhibiting action of at least one cell cycle inhibitor present in the inner ear is at least partly inhibited or eliminated by an active ingredient.

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29. Method of treating diseases or disorders of the inner ear linked with damage or destruction of the sensory cells of the inner ear by administering an active ingredient able to inhibit or eliminate the action of a cell cycle inhibitor present in the inner ear.

30. Method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition or a medicament for the treatment of diseases or disorders of the inner ear linked with damage or destruction of the sensory cells of the inner ear by administering an active ingredient able to inhibit or eliminate the action of a cell cycle inhibitor present in the inner ear.

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SVB

31. Process according to claim 28, characterized in that the regeneration of the sensory cells of the inner ear takes place by stimulating proliferation of the supporting cells of the inner ear.